

EPS-HDT

Economic Profile System – Human Dimensions Toolkit

This fact sheet describes the EPS-HDT software: what it is, how it can help public land management, how to install it, and how to run custom reports.

A second fact sheet describes the 14 different socioeconomic reports (industry specific, demographics, federal payments to counties, and more) that can be produced with EPS-HDT. The fact sheet can be found at: http://headwaterseconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/EPS-HDT_Report_Types.pdf



What is EPS-HDT?

EPS-HDT is a free, easy-to-use software application that runs in Excel, from your desktop, and produces detailed socioeconomic reports of counties, states, and regions, including custom aggregations.

EPS-HDT uses published statistics from federal data sources, including the Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce; and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; and others. The databases are updated every year so that EPS-HDT uses the latest published statistics.

How Can EPS-HDT Assist Public Land Management?

As the economic and demographic conditions of the country change – and as values, attitudes and opinions shift – the management of public lands becomes increasingly complex. More than ever, land managers need ready access to information that is presented in a user-friendly format. EPS-HDT was developed as a support tool for public lands managers and as a tool for engaging the public to help understand changing socioeconomic trends. For example, the growth of a service-based economy, “amenity-based migration,” the rapid acceleration of retirement and investment income, or the development of energy resources, all can lead to different demands and expectations on public lands. EPS-HDT is designed to identify socioeconomic trends and help the user understand what these mean for public land management.

EPS-HDT can be used in a planning context, including scoping and issue identification, the description of baseline conditions, the identification of alternatives, and the evaluation of the effect of alternatives. It can also help place management actions in a larger context. For example, an action that may affect public land grazing will have a different effect if agriculture represents 20 percent of the economy than if it represents 2 percent. In another example, the economic contribution of public land amenities can be described using EPS-HDT, and compared to in-migration trends and a growing retirement community.

EPS-HDT is also a time-saver because it automates the process of gathering data, making tables, calculations, figures and interpretive text. This frees up staff time for other tasks, such as supplementing EPS-HDT information with additional sources (surveys, for example), meeting with community members, and interpreting the information.

How is EPS-HDT Installed?

The software, along with instructions on how to download and install, can be found at:

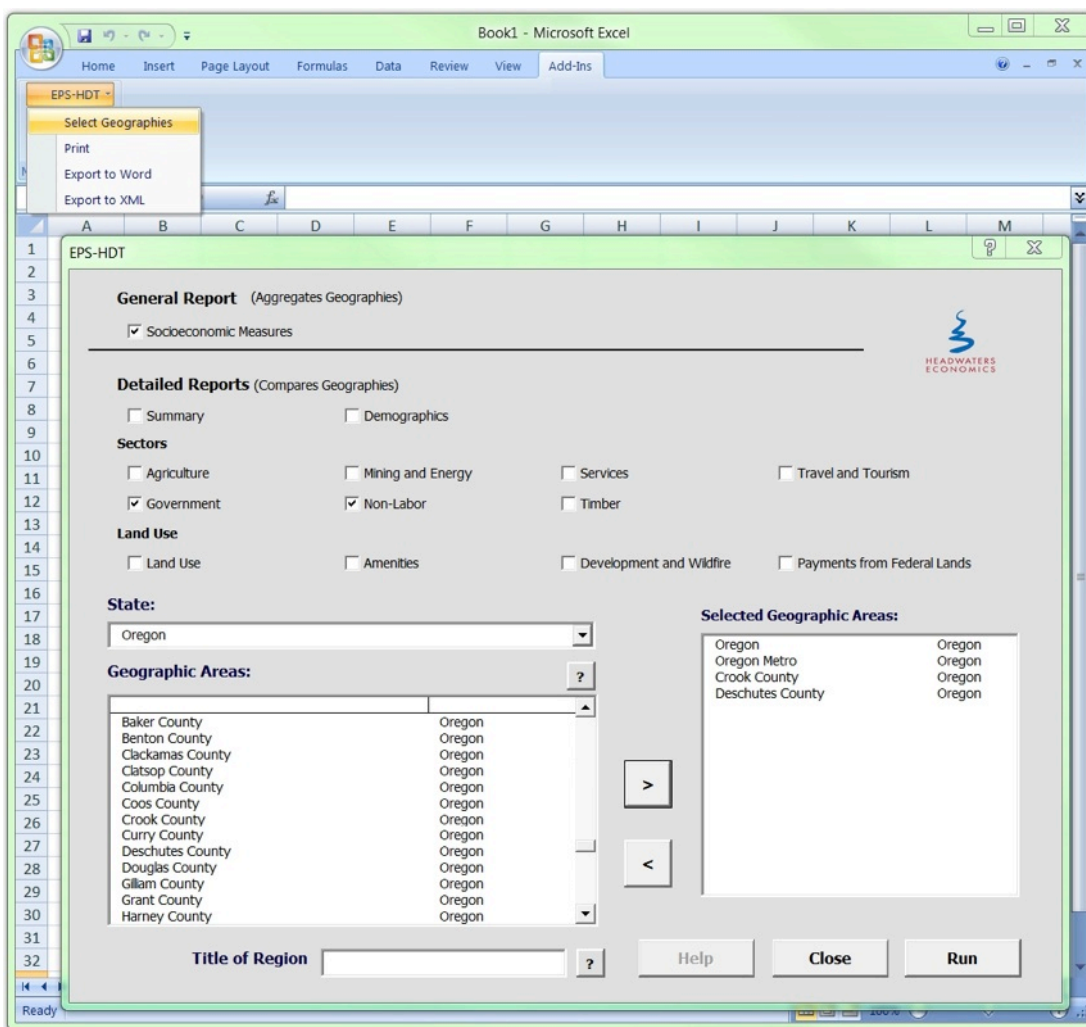
www.headwaterseconomics.org/tools/eps-hdt.

Once you have finished the installation process, open Excel and click on the “Add-Ins” tab on your Excel menu bar.

How Does EPS-HDT Work?

EPS-HDT works within Microsoft Excel (versions 2003 and 2007). The software consists of an “Add-In,” which appears in the Excel menu bar. Once you have downloaded and installed the Add-In, it will load automatically whenever Excel starts up.

The image below, which appears in Excel once you have downloaded the software and clicked on the EPS-HDT Add-in, shows how to run EPS-HDT report. The steps are outlined in red to the right of this image:



STEPS:

Open Excel

Click on Add-In to begin

Click on EPS-HDT

Select the report(s) you would like to run (any number can be selected; Excel will produce a separate file for each)

Click on Select Geography

Choose the geography (counties, regions, aggregations)

Title the region (selected geographies will be shown individually and also as an aggregated “region”)

Click Run

Types of EPS-HDT Reports (covered in more detail in a second fact sheet)

EPS-HDT can produce 14 separate reports covering:

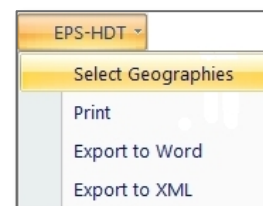
- Economic trends (jobs and personal income by industry, wages, unemployment, etc.);
- Specific economic sectors (services, agriculture, government, timber, mining, oil and gas, travel and tourism-related);
- Demographics (e.g., race, age, poverty, housing, education);
- Non-labor income (e.g., retirement and investment income);
- Land use (e.g., land cover, ownership, residential development);
- The role of public lands in providing amenities (e.g., special land designations);
- The wildland-urban interface (for the West only); and
- Payments from federal land management agencies to counties (PILT, SRS, etc.).

Reports can be produced for any part of the nation using any combination of states and counties.

What Does EPS-HDT Produce?

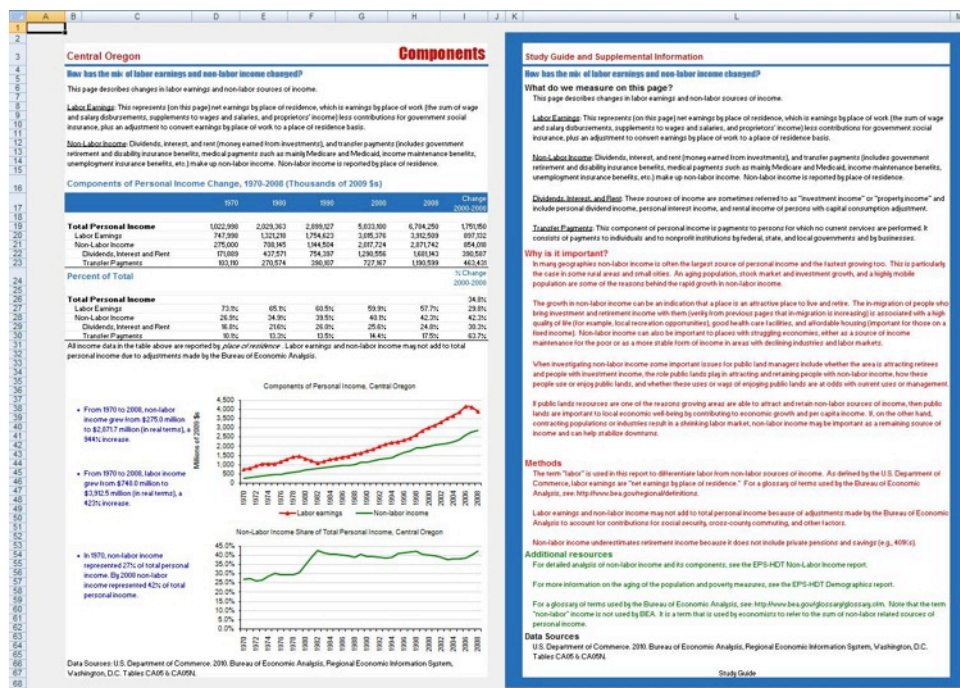
Each EPS-HDT report selected will produce a separate Excel workbook.

By going back to the Add-In, the Excel output can be printed (to the printer or to PDF), or exported into either Word or as XML format.



Information is presented in various forms, including tables, figures, and bulleted text that interprets each of the figures. Each page is accompanied with a Study Guide and Supplemental Information page.

The image below shows an example EPS-HDT page in Excel:



BLACK TEXT describes what is being measured and data sources used.

BLUE TEXT (next to figures) describes data in figures specific to selected geographies.

RED TEXT explains why the information is important and methods.

GREEN TEXT lists additional resources that help with interpretation of the information.

The red and green color-coded text is intended to guide the analyst or writer and should be deleted before producing the final document.

EPS-HDT is Approved for Agency Use

Further Information

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